

The afterglow of a sonoluminescing bubble. Thomas J. Matula* (Applied Physics Laboratory, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 98105) and William C. Moss** (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA, 94551)

The light flash produced by a sonoluminescing bubble is extremely short lived, with a duration of less than 12 psec [M.J. Moran et al., NIMB, 96, 651 (1995)]. Although attempts have been made to explain the brevity of the flash there has been little attention given to the possibility of any residual "glow" that may be present. An afterglow would result, for example, from an expanding hot bubble that cools quickly as it expands. We have attempted to measure the afterglow produced by a sonoluminescing bubble using a high speed gated intensifier. The intensifier consists of a microchannel plate photomultiplier (MCP-PMT) with a phosphor screen at the anode. The gate (applied by switching the high voltage at the first stage of the MCP-PMT) is closed during the main flash, and opened immediately afterwards, within 5 nsec. Light incident on the photocathode of the MCP-PMT activates the phosphor. A second PMT located behind the gated intensifier records the brightness of the phosphor emission. Results of the experiment will be presented. *Work supported by NSF. **Work performed under the auspices of the U. S. Department of Energy by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under contract number W-7405-ENG-48.

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